IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application.

1-54. (Cancelled)

(Currently amended) A peptide compound of the formula: His Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Thr Phe Thr Xaa₈ Asp Xaa₁₀ Ser Lys Gln Xaa₁₄ Glu Glu Glu Ala Val Arg Leu Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Glu Xaa₂₅ Leu Lys Xaa₂₈ Gly Gly Pro Ser Ser Gly Ala Pro Pro Pro-Z

wherein Xaa2 is Ser, Gly or Thr,

Xaa3 is Asp or Glu,

Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser, or Thr,

Xaa10 is Leu, Ile, Val, pentylglycine or Met,

Xaa14 is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met,

Xaa22 is Phe, Tyr or napthylalanine naphthylalanine,

Xaa23 is Ile, Val, Leu, pentylglycine, tert-butylglycine or Met,

Xaa25 is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or napthylalanine naphthylalanine.

Xaa28 is Ala or Asn, and

Z is -OH or -NH2; and

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

- 56. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa2 is Ser.
- 57. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa2 is Gly.
- 58. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa3 is Asp.
- 59. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa14 is Leu.

- 60. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa25 is Phe.
- 61. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Xaa28 is Ala.
- 62. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 55, wherein Z is NH₂.
- 63. (Withdrawn) A peptide compound of the formula:

 His Gly Glu Gly Thr Phe Thr Ser Asp Leu Ser Lys Gln Xaa₁₄ Glu

 Glu Glu Ala Val Arg Leu Phe Ile Glu Xaa₂₅ Leu Lys Asn-NH₂;

 wherein Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met;

Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or napthylalanine naphthylalanine; and wherein any one amino acid other than Xaa₄, Xaa₇, Xaa₉, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₈, Xaa₂₂ and Xaa₂₃ optionally is Ala; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

- 64. (Withdrawn) The peptide compound of claim 63, wherein Xaa14 is Leu.
- 65. (Withdrawn) The peptide compound of claim 63, wherein Xaa25 is Phe.
- 66. (Previously presented) A peptide compound of the formula: His Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Thr Phe Thr Ser Asp Leu Ser Lys Gln Met Glu Glu Glu Ala Val Arg Leu Phe Ile Glu Trp Leu Lys Asn Gly Gly Pro Ser Ser Gly Ala Pro Pro-Z,

wherein Xaa₂ is Gly, Ser, Ala or Thr, Xaa₃ is Glu or Asp; and Z is -OH or -NH₂; and phannaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

- 67. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 66, wherein Xaa2 is Ser.
- 68. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 66, wherein Xaa3 is Asp.
- 69. (Previously presented) The peptide compound of claim 66, wherein Z is NH₂.

- 70. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment of diabetes mellitus comprising the administration, to a subject in need thereof, of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 55.
- 71. (Previously presented) The method of claim 70 further comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin.
- 72. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment of diabetes mellitus comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 63.
- 73. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 72 further comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin.
- 74. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment of diabetes mellitus comprising the administration, to a subject in need thereof, of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 66.
- 75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 74 further comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin.